

Council/Agency Meeting Held:	
Deferred/Continued to:	
<input type="checkbox"/> Approved <input type="checkbox"/> Conditionally Approved <input type="checkbox"/> Denied	City Clerk's Signature
Council Meeting Date:	September 6, 2005
	Department ID Number: PL05-29

CITY OF HUNTINGTON BEACH REQUEST FOR ACTION

SUBMITTED TO: HONORABLE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS

SUBMITTED BY: *Penelope Culbreth-Graft*, PENELOPE CULBRETH-GRAFT, City Administrator

PREPARED BY: ROSS CRANMER, Acting Director of Planning *Ross Cranmer*

SUBJECT: ACCEPT THE FLOOD MANAGEMENT PLAN ANNUAL REVIEW

Statement of Issue, Funding Source, Recommended Action, Alternative Action(s), Analysis, Environmental Status, Attachment(s)

Statement of Issue:

Transmitted for your consideration is the annual review of the Flood Management Plan (FMP). The FMP identifies potential local flood hazards and activities to mitigate flood damage. The update covers the period from July 1, 2004 through June 30, 2005 and indicates the progress made to complete the activities recommended in the FMP. The progress report must be submitted to the City Council and forwarded to the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) by October 1, 2005. The Planning Commission and staff recommend that the City Council accept the annual review of the FMP.

Funding Source: Not applicable.

Recommended Action:

Motion to:

"Accept the annual review of the Flood Management Plan as adequate and complete and forward it to FEMA."

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CITY OF
HUNTINGTON BEACH, CA

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REQUEST FOR ACTION

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Planning Commission Action on August 9, 2005:

THE MOTION MADE BY SCANDURA, SECONDED BY HORGAN, TO ACCEPT THE ANNUAL REVIEW OF THE FLOOD MANAGEMENT PLAN AS ADEQUATE AND COMPLETE AND FORWARD TO THE CITY COUNCIL FOR REVIEW CARRIED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES: SCANDURA, RAY, LIVENGOOD, BURNETT, DWYER, HORGAN
NOES: DINGWALL
ABSENT: NONE
ABSTAIN: NONE

MOTION PASSED

Alternative Action(s):

The City Council may make the following alternative motion:

"Continue the annual review of the Flood Management Plan and direct staff accordingly."

Analysis:

A. PROJECT PROPOSAL:

Applicant: City of Huntington Beach Planning Department

Location: Citywide

Section 9 (Implementation) of the Flood Management Plan (FMP) mandates that an annual review of the FMP's recommended activities must be presented to the Planning Commission and City Council to demonstrate that the City is actively pursuing its implementation. Following Planning Commission and City Council review the report must be submitted to FEMA by October 1 of each year as part of the annual re-certification. Failure to adhere to this deadline will jeopardize the City's participation in the flood insurance program.

B. BACKGROUND

The City joined the FEMA flood insurance program in 1983 with the adoption of floodplain regulations. Following City Council direction in 1994, the Planning Department submitted an application to FEMA for participation in the Community Rating System (CRS), a special program that rewards communities that implement more activities than the minimum requirements for participation in the flood insurance program. CRS works by awarding points for implementing certain activities. The points are then related to a class rating which allows a reduction in flood insurance premiums. Following a reverification visit by FEMA's consultant, the City became a class 7 community effective October 1999. This allows property owners in flood zones AE, A, V, and VE a 15% reduction in flood insurance premium. A 5% reduction is the maximum available to property owners in flood zone X.

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C. PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING AND RECOMMENDATION:

On August 9, 2005 the Planning Commission considered the annual review of the FMP as a non-public hearing item. The Planning Commission asked a few questions regarding several activities in the FMP including the status of drainage improvements citywide, with particular focus on the southeast portion of the city, and how projects are prioritized and funded. The Planning Commission then voted to accept the annual review and forward it to the City Council with three modifications incorporated in Attachment No. 1.

D. STAFF ANALYSIS AND RECOMMENDATION:

Section 8.0 (Recommendation) of the FMP contains recommended activities to implement the goals of the FMP to reduce flood damage. A matrix of the various activities, responsible departments, and status of each activity to date is included in this staff report (see Attachment No. 1). The purpose of the annual review is to demonstrate the progress that has been made in carrying out the recommended activities during the review period of July 1, 2004 through June 30, 2005. An update to various sections of the FMP is also identified below.

Section 5.6 – Protective Measures in Effect or Under Construction

County Projects

During the past twelve months the County continued improvements to the Huntington Beach flood control channel located in the southeastern part of the City to make it 100-year flood compliant. The County will then apply for a map amendment within the next few months. It is anticipated that the final FEMA determination on the map amendment request will take at least one year. Completion of the remaining unimproved segments of the East Garden Grove Wintersburg flood control channel will result in additional reduction to the floodplain. Attachment No. 2 to this report is an excerpt from the County's seven-year flood control projects plan. It shows that portions of the East Garden Grove Wintersburg channel within the city are scheduled for approximately \$34,600,000 in improvements over the next five years.

Local Projects

Several local projects have continued to progress. The Public Works Department completed the design of the first phase of the Michael Drive/Slater Avenue storm drain project in fiscal year 04/05. Construction was recently completed on the Alabama Street storm drain between Atlanta and Joliet. Lastly, the Master Plan of Drainage Update was adopted by the City Council in early 2005.

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Section 5.7 - Fiscal Impact

The Capital Improvement Programs for 2004-2005 and 2005-2006 include several projects that will reduce flooding impacts. Their current status is as follows:

IMPROVEMENT	FUNDING SOURCE	FY 2004/05 \$ COST	FY 2005/06 \$ COST
Residential sidewalk, curb, and gutter replacement (construction)	Gas tax	NA	4,250,000
Talbert Lake Diversion (conceptual study)	Grants	NA	390,000
Alabama Street storm drain (construction)	Grants	2,500,000	NA
Michael Drive storm drain (design)	CDBG	370,000	NA
Meredith storm drain (design)	Grants/General Fund	NA	150,000

Flood Insurance

According to the National Flood Insurance Program the number of flood insurance policies and amount of insurance premiums paid citywide remain steady as follows:

	May 2003	March 2004	April 2005
Number of Policies	11,172	10,421	10,399
Amount of Premiums	\$5,347,398	\$5,266,821	\$5,664,503

E. SUMMARY

The Planning Commission and staff believe that the FMP annual review demonstrates that the City is actively pursuing its implementation and recommend that the City Council accept the annual review as adequate and complete.

Environmental Status:

The annual review is categorically exempt pursuant to Class 6, Section 15306 of the California Environmental Quality Act which states that information collection which does not result in major disturbance to an environmental resource is exempt from any environmental review.

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Attachment(s):

City Clerk's Page Number	No.	Description
6 16	1	2004-2005 Annual Review Matrix
	2	Excerpt from the County of Orange Flood Control Projects 7-Year Plan (As of January 2005)

RCA Author: Ricky Ramos/Mary Beth Broeren

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ATTACHMENT #1

Updates since the last annual review are shown as follows:

- 1. Staff updates - bold and underlined
- 2. Planning Commission requested updates - bold, underlined, and highlighted
- 3. (Sept. 6, 2005)

ATTACHMENT NO. 1

July 1, 2004 – June 30, 2005 ANNUAL REVIEW

Flood Management Plan Recommended Activities

Goal	Activity	Responsible Department	Schedule	Status
EH4 - Flooding	8.1.1 - Continue to enforce and update floodplain regulations when revised by the Federal government	X	Ongoing	Floodplain ordinance continues to be enforced including submittal of flood certificates for all new or substantially improved structures within the floodplain. No new or revised regulations.
	8.1.2 - Protect public facilities from flooding	X	Ongoing	The Street Division of Public Works Department has an ongoing commitment to protect public facilities with all their resources.
	8.1.3 - Assist managers and owners of critical facilities as listed in Section 5.4.3 to develop flood protection plans	X	Ongoing	No assistance requested to date from critical facilities. In 2003-04 the City worked with the school districts and Fountain Valley in preparing a Hazard Mitigation Plan which includes a flood component.
	8.1.4 - Encourage floodproofing and retrofitting property/structures to prevent substantial flood damage and provide technical information	X	Ongoing	Planning and Building staff continue to provide floodproofing and technical information to the public. Fire staff continues flood preparedness education throughout the year to neighborhoods, schools, and businesses.
	8.1.5 - Continue to update, distribute, and provide flood protection information and materials	X	Ongoing	Up-to-date flood protection materials received from FEMA and the State Office of Emergency Services are available at city hall and on the Internet. Flood preparedness information is distributed at disaster preparedness seminars. Floodplain brochure mailed to

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July 1, 2004 – June 30, 2005 ANNUAL REVIEW

Flood Management Plan Recommended Activities

Service	Activity	Responsible Department	Schedule	Status
			8.1.6 - Maintain adequate flood insurance on public structures	over 15,000 property owners fall of 2004. Library maintains adequate inventory of flood related reference materials.
Planning	8.1.7 - Provide floodplain information to property and business owners, realtors, and prospective buyers and encourage flood insurance	X	Ongoing	City maintains \$45,000,000 earthquake/flood insurance coverage.
Public Works	8.1.8 – Maintain close liaison with nearby cities and with County, State, and Federal agencies	X	X	Letters sent to lenders, realtors and insurance agents advising that flood zone information is available from Planning Dept. Planning Dept. responds annually to 5,000+ flood zone inquiries.
Fire	8.1.9 – Continue to participate in the National Flood Insurance Program and Community Rating System	X	X	The City has an ongoing relationship with the cities of Westminster and Fountain Valley streetengineering divisions as well as County, State and Federal agencies. Administration and Public Works staff work through League of Cities City Managers and the Orange County Council of Governments in pursuing common goals in the area of flood control.
Building	8.1.10 – Continue to implement the City's emergency operation procedures as outlined in the	X	X	Annual CRS verification due October 1, 2005; presently City is rated Class 7 which allows flood insurance to HB property owners and residents with a reduction up to 15% on the premium. City continues to implement all FEMA design regulations on new development and substantial improvements.
Library				Ongoing
Administrative Services				
City Council				
Community Services				

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July 1, 2004 – June 30, 2005 ANNUAL REVIEW

Flood Management Plan Recommended Activities

Goal	Activity	Responsible Department	Schedule	Status
City's Emergency Management Plan, in particular, the Flood Warning and Evacuation procedures		Community Services		constantly monitor the weather and any flood or storm threat. They are prepared to issue warnings whenever needed. The City has updated and the City Council has approved the new Emergency Operations Plan which describes alerting and warning and evacuation procedures.
8.1.11 - Continue to utilize citizen volunteers, e.g., CERT and RACES	X		Ongoing	The CERT program has 520 graduates and RACES has 75 trained and equipped communications volunteers ready to respond.
8.1.12 - Continue to provide a sandbag program	X		Ongoing	Sandbag filling machine is on a scheduled service program. Sand is stockpiled in the Corporation Yard year round and available to public during possible flooding events.
8.1.13 - Encourage the State to modify the roadway profile of Pacific Coast Highway between Warner Avenue and Goldenvest Street to prevent street closure due to flooding	X X		Ongoing	City continues to seek support from State legislators for Caltrans improvements in this area. <u>Raising of PCH where it crosses the inlet proposed as part of the Bolsa Chica restoration would reduce chances for PCH to flood near inlet. The other unidentified portions of PCH will continue to be subject to flooding.</u>
U3 - Storm Drainage	8.2.1 - Upgrade the City's flood control system (storm drains, catch basins, pump stations, and channels) to current FEMA standards (100-year flood) and concentrate on the repetitive flood areas first		October 2020	Design completed on phase one of the Michael Drive/Slater Avenue storm drain project in FY 04/05. Construction completed on the Alabama Street storm drain between Atlanta and Joliet Avenues in FY 04/05. Design to begin on the

July 1, 2004 - June 30, 2005 ANNUAL REVIEW

Flood Management Plan Recommended Activities

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July 1, 2004 – June 30, 2005 ANNUAL REVIEW

Flood Management Plan Recommended Activities

Goal	Activity	Responsible Department	Schedule	Status
	8.2.5 - Update the City's Master Plan of Drainage to evaluate the effectiveness of the City's flood control system	X		<u>Master Plan of Drainage (MPD)</u> Update was completed in FY 04/05.
	8.2.6 - Lobby the federal, state and county governments to study, pursue and expand the wetlands from Beach Blvd. to Brookhurst St. for floodwater mitigation	X X		Ongoing
				In addition to direct City contact with our county, state, and federal legislators, the City utilizes lobbyists at the State and Federal levels to help in securing funding for this purpose. The City also actively supports the successful efforts of the HB Wetlands Conservancy in soliciting state money to acquire and restore wetlands between Newland St. and the Santa Ana River. <u>The HB Wetlands Conservancy anticipates acquiring the following 6 acre Caltrans property located on Lathrop in the next 30 days. 1 acre IIC Riverside property near Brookhurst and PCH in about one year, and 46 acre Caltrans property near Beach and PCH in about five years.</u>
	8.2.7 - Evaluate and upgrade open areas, e.g., Meadowlark Golf Course, Central Park, Good Shepherd Cemetery to eliminate offsite drainage and subsequent impact to private property.	X		Ongoing
	8.2.8 - Continue to support reconstruction of deteriorating seawalls	X		Ongoing

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July 1, 2004 – June 30, 2005 ANNUAL REVIEW

Flood Management Plan Recommended Activities

Goal	Activity	Responsible Department	Schedule	Status
	8.2.9 - Pursue funding from County, State and Federal agencies	X	X	Ongoing The City is developing projects that would utilize a \$900,000 EPA Grant for storm drain and sewer improvements.
				The City continues to seek Federal funding in FY 2004/05 to improve other flood control infrastructure. City Council is seeking Federal funding to improve the response capability of our Emergency Operations Center.
				In 2003-04 the City in conjunction with Fountain Valley and the school districts prepared a Hazard Mitigation Plan to allow these jurisdictions to be eligible for pre-disaster mitigation grants.
	8.2.10 - Develop and support new funding sources to help accomplish drainage goals		X X	Ongoing In addition to the efforts of lobbyists, the city supports legislation that will achieve this goal.
	8.2.11 - Continue to participate in County watershed studies and programs	X		
EH5 - Tsunami	8.3.1 - Update the Tsunami Emergency Operation plan, Operations Plan 2, as needed	X		Ongoing The City updated its Emergency Operations Plan and Council approved it March 20, 2004. It includes tsunami response procedures. <u>The HB EOC is working with the County of Orange to develop a countywide comprehensive Tsunami Response</u>

ATTACHMENT NO. E-1, 1d

July 1, 2004 – June 30, 2005 ANNUAL REVIEW

Flood Management Plan Recommended Activities

Goal	Activity	Responsible Department		Schedule	Status
		Planning	Public Works		
	8.3.2 - Continue to provide tsunami warning to the community	X		Ongoing	The Police Watch Commander (alerting point for the city) and the EOC are prepared to issue tsunami warnings.
	8.3.3 - Educate the public regarding the potential threat of a tsunami	X		Ongoing	At outreach seminars the EOC provides the public with information on a tsunami threat and what residents should do if a tsunami warning is issued. In addition a Hazard Analysis was completed for schools identifying which should prepare for tsunamis. A Hazard Mitigation Plan was developed and one of the six hazards included is tsunami. The City Council, State OES, and FEMA have approved the plan. The EOC is conducting a tsunami education campaign.
ERC2 - Biological Resources	8.4.1 - Implement best management practice plans and National Pollution Discharge Elimination Plans	X	X	Ongoing	As applicable, zoning entitlements include a condition of approval requiring NPDES plans to be submitted to and approved by Public Works prior to issuance of building permits and/or grading permits. Staff is continuously developing and implementing Best Management Practices where appropriate for both new and existing development as well as city owned properties. Pacific City was conditioned to possible area wide rate.
	8.4.2 - Investigate and install in-line wetlands in drainage courses wherever feasible	X		Ongoing	Several potential areas have been identified in the City. Staff is working

July 1, 2004 – June 30, 2005 ANNUAL REVIEW

Flood Management Plan Recommended Activities

Goal	Activity	Responsible Department	Schedule	Status
	drainage courses wherever feasible			with County, Army Corps, OCWD and environmental non-profit organizations to evaluate feasibility and funding. Partial funding has been obtained from the State for Talbert Lake diversion project. <u>Consultant anticipated to be hired in a couple of months to start design and feasibility study.</u>
			Ongoing	Filling of the Waterfront residential wetland parcel at Beach and Pacific Coast Highway was prohibited as part of the development project. The wetland parcel is owned by the Redevelopment Agency and has a conservation easement in place.
			X	Ongoing
8.4.3 - Prohibit filling of wetlands except as allowed by the General Plan				Letter sent to Congressman Rohrabacher encouraging continued beach replenishment funding by the federal government.
8.4.4 – Encourage the State to maintain the coastal dunes adjacent to the Bolsa Chica wetlands and in the Huntington Beach wetlands to better protect the areas from storm surges				Ongoing
8.4.5 – Continue the Coastal Conservation District zoning on the wetlands		X		There was no change to Coastal Conservation District zoning on wetlands.
EH2 - Erosion	8.5.1 – Establish building setbacks from all slopes including mesa and bluff edges	X		2010
	8.5.2 – Participate in the bluff (between Goldenwest and Seapoint Streets) erosion study and implement recommendations	X		Ongoing
LU14 - Open Space	8.6.1 - Limit construction in existing open space areas only to necessary structures such as	X	X	Ongoing
				Only beach activity support structures were constructed on south beach area

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July 1, 2004 – June 30, 2005 ANNUAL REVIEW

Flood Management Plan Recommended Activities

Goal	Activity	Responsible Department			Schedule	Status
Space	restrooms, picnic shelters				X	between Huntington and First St.
	8.6.2 – Evaluate the possibility of the City purchasing surplus school sites to allow playfields to remain as open areas and provide for floodwater retention areas					Quarterly meetings are held between the school districts and City to discuss use of school properties. The City Council considered an option August 15, 2005 to obtain land at the Maydoune School site.
HCR1 - Historical Resources	8.7.1 - Encourage property owners to floodproof historical structures	X				Ongoing
	8.7.2 - Encourage property owners of historical structures to maintain adequate flood insurance	X				Ongoing
						Letters sent June 2004.
						Letters sent June 2004.

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ATTACHMENT NO. 1.9

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ATTACHMENT #2

ATTACHMENT NO. 2

**EXCERPT FROM COUNTY OF ORANGE FLOOD CONTROL
PROJECTS 7-YEAR PLAN
(As of January 2005)**

Fiscal Year	Channel	Location	\$ Estimate
2005-2006	CO5	2,600 ft. downstream of Graham to upstream of Graham	8,000,000
2006-2007	CO5	Upstream of Graham to Warner	13,500,000
2008-2009	CO5	Warner to Springdale	5,100,000
2008-2009	CO5	Springdale to Goldenwest	8,000,000
Total			34,600,000

CO5 – East Garden Grove Wintersburg flood control channel

(First year projects are for budgeting purposes. The subsequent years are subject to funding and prioritization.)

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